REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Title of Publication:	mime010.jpg
Other Known Title:	Shrek Pictures
Format:	Computer Image File
Director/Author:	Not Applicable
Producer/Publisher:	Not Stated
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English
Applicant:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Distributor:	Not Applicable
Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
Descriptive Note:	Not Applicable.
Display Conditions:	Nil
Date of entry in Register:	28 November 2005
Date of direction to issue a label:	Not Applicable
OFLC No:	501207
Excisions:	Not Applicable

Reasons for excisions:

Not Applicable

Summary of reasons for classification:

The computer image file entitled *mime010j.pg* is classified as:
Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

The image file is a cartoon image depicting explicit sexual activity between the three main characters from the animated film *"Shrek"*. All three are fantasy creatures, combining animal, human, and mythical characteristics. One of the characters is a donkey, who in the movie, is

voiced by a famous Hollywood actor. The image makes a parody of the characters' close relationship, using crude and salacious humour to do so. The three characters are the central figures of the film and the creators of this image are suggesting that this may be the "next level" of their relationship. The fact that most people relate the donkey's character to the voice of the actor humanises him to some extent and so does the fact that as well as talking, he engages in other human activities. This image does not legitimise or encourage the idea of sex between people and animals. Rather, it uses the idea to make a crude satirical comment on the relationship between the three characters. For all these reasons, the publication does not promote and support, or tend to promote or support bestiality.

The likelihood of harm to adults is limited by the obviously contrived nature of the image and the relevance of the humour intended. However, young viewers do not have the maturity or experience to deal with adult sexual humour and they are less likely to view the image as a joke or to understand its intent. A restriction limiting the availability of the publication to adults therefore reduces the likelihood of injury to the public good.

The classification of this publication interferes with the freedom of expression, as set out in section 14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. The classification is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that will be injurious to the public good.